



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

December 7, 2017

Dr. Paige McNulty
Superintendent, School City of East Chicago
1401 East 144th Street
East Chicago, IN 46312

Dear Dr. McNulty:

Thank you for meeting with Sarah Rolfes and me on Monday, November 13, 2017, to discuss your district's proposed re-use plans for the former Carrie Gosch School property at 455 East 148th Street, East Chicago, Indiana. As you described to us, the planned future uses of the school, if approved by your Board, will include a bus barn, a 911 call-in center, and other similar commercial or municipal uses. You also stated that, if approved, you would like to begin construction of the bus barn in March 2018. This letter acknowledges that EPA does not object to these proposed future uses of the former Carrie Gosch School property and should the board approve these planned future uses of the property, EPA will not require any further soil remediation at the property.

As you may know, EPA has been remediating adjacent residential properties at the USS Lead Superfund site since 2016. We had also planned to remediate a portion of the former Carrie Gosch School property in Spring 2018, assuming a future residential use of the property, because lead concentrations at an 18-inch depth exceeded our residential cleanup value. However, since all of the future uses planned for the school property are now commercial/industrial, our planned remediation of the property is now not required. EPA arrived at this decision because the concentrations of lead and arsenic in the top two feet of soil at the school are at or below levels that would require remediation of a commercial/industrial property. EPA may require that the School District place institutional controls on the property to ensure that any future uses of the property remain protective of human health and the environment.

I trust that this decision will eliminate any scheduling conflicts and associated delays for your planned construction projects. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Rolfes at (312) 886-6551 or myself at (312) 353-4367.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy Drexler", is written over the typed name.

Timothy Drexler
Remedial Project Manager